



## King County

**Ron Sims**

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KING COUNTY COUNCIL

September 28, 2006

The Honorable Larry Phillips  
Chair, King County Council  
Room 1200  
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Phillips:

I am pleased to provide you with the 2005 Annual Report for the Regional Wastewater Services Plan (RWSP). This report meets the reporting requirements outlined in Ordinance 15384 and King County Code 28.86.165 for RWSP annual reports.

We continue to implement the RWSP on schedule and have many successes to report. A summary of the major elements included in the 2005 RWSP Annual Report is listed below.

### Brightwater Treatment System

The Brightwater Treatment System remains on schedule for completion in 2010. Final design of the treatment plant and conveyance system was initiated in 2005. The Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) secured agreements with property owners to purchase all 25 treatment plant parcels and acquire 92 percent of conveyance parcels and easements. Nearly all the major permits needed for construction were acquired. WTD developed and signed Project Labor Agreements with building and construction trades councils. Mitigation agreements were negotiated with Snohomish County and other affected jurisdictions. Brightwater project staff continued to involve the public in the design and permitting processes.

### Conveyance System Improvements

We continue to make progress to meet the RWSP conveyance policies. In 2005, four RWSP conveyance projects were in the design process and three were in construction. In addition, work began in 2005 to update the conveyance system improvement plan, which is scheduled to be transmitted to the King County Council in early 2007.

### Infiltration and Inflow (I/I)

In 2005, WTD completed a joint county/local agency comprehensive six-year study of I/I in the portions of the regional wastewater service area served by separated sewers. This informative



study led to the development of the Recommended I/I Control Program that was adopted by the King County Council via Motion 12292 in May 2006.

#### Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Control

Key achievements of the CSO control program in 2005 include completion and startup of the Mercer Elliott West and Henderson/Norfolk CSO control systems. In addition, substantial portions of the CSO Program Review were completed. The review was transmitted to the council in spring 2006.

#### Local Treatment Systems

In 2005, substantial progress was made on the Vashon Treatment Plant upgrades and on the design of the Carnation Treatment Plant. Vashon Treatment Plant construction is expected to be complete in late 2006. Construction of the Carnation Treatment Plant is expected to begin in fall 2006.

#### Odor Control Program

We are moving forward on implementing the RWSP odor control policies. Design on improvements to the West Point plant's existing odor scrubber system was completed in 2005. In addition, design was completed on covers for each first pass of the four aeration basins and for the return activated sludge channel at South Plant.

#### Biosolids Program

The Biosolids Program continues to recycle 100 percent of the biosolids produced at the regional treatment plants. Approximately 115,000 wet tons of biosolids were produced in 2005.

#### Reclaimed Water and Water Conservation

We made progress in 2005 on meeting the RWSP water reuse policies and supporting water conservation efforts. The regional treatment plants produced and used about 266 million gallons of reclaimed water in 2005. A reclaimed water "backbone" was incorporated into the design of the Brightwater conveyance system. WTD is participating on the Reclaimed Water Technical Committee that is part of the Regional Wastewater Supply Planning process. DNRP continued its efforts to install water conserving fixtures for specific projects.

#### RWSP Cost Estimates

In accordance with the RWSP reporting policies, updated cost estimates are included in the 2005 RWSP Annual Report. The 2005 cost estimate for implementing the projects and programs associated with the RWSP through 2030 is approximately \$2.97 billion, an increase of \$212 million from the 2003 RWSP cost estimate of approximately \$2.76 billion in 2005\$ dollars. The December 2005 Brightwater cost trend estimates account for 89 percent (\$189 million) of the increase from the 2003 estimates. The 2005 cost estimates reflect anticipated costs from the initial planning stage through construction and startup and include the costs for RWSP projects that have been completed or are in design or construction.

The Honorable Larry Phillips

September 28, 2006

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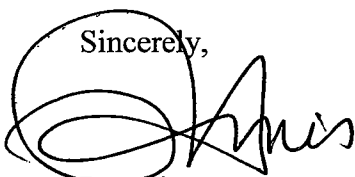
Water Quality Management and Compliance

To meet the RWSP's water quality protection policies and protect public health, DNRP regularly monitors the county's major lakes, beaches, streams, marine waters, and wastewater effluent. In 2005, the county's treatment plants continued to be in compliance with the terms and conditions of their National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. In general, monitoring activities in 2005 found that the quality of marine and fresh waters in King County is good.

If you have any questions about the 2005 RWSP Annual Report, or would like a briefing on the report, please contact Don Theiler, Division Director in the Wastewater Treatment Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-684-1551, or Laura Wharton, Comprehensive Planning and Technical Resources Supervisor in the Wastewater Treatment Division, at 206-684-1238.

I look forward to continue working with the King County Council and the Regional Water Quality Committee to implement this important regional effort.

Sincerely,



Ron Sims

King County Executive

Enclosures

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN ✓ Ross Baker, Chief of Staff

✓ Shelley Sutton, Policy Staff Director

✓ Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC) Members

✓ Beth Mountsier, RWQC Lead Analyst

Bob Cowan, Director, Office of Management and Budget

Pam Bissonnette, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)

Donald Theiler, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD), DNRP

Laura Wharton, Supervisor, Comprehensive Planning and Technical Resources, WTD,  
DNRP